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Do Women Require More Petting Than Men?

In my mail the other day came a letter asking me to express an opinion in regard to the constant petting that women seem to require.

"Even the strongest women," says the letter, which is written in a strapping hand suggestive of shirt sleeves and six feet of masculinity, "expect perpetual indorsement or they lose heart. How do you account for it? Why can't women be strong and true in purpose even though it does not win commendation?"

Blind, indeed, must be Mr. Writerman.

He could hardly have passed out of sight of his own chimney not to have seen that great army of women, wives of drunkards and dissipated husbands, who never receive a word of commendation, never a word of human recognition, yet, keep nobly, steadfastly on, performing their hard, inexorable, pitiful duties of wifehood and motherhood.

Are not the names of these women worthy to be recorded in that book wherein are written the stories of heroic women—of their lives and of their sorrows?

Perhaps they bear it all from a sense of a duty they feel they owe to the men who themselves have long forgotten their promises at the altar.

Perhaps they suffer in silence for the sake of their children.

Do these women shirk their duties because they receive no commendation?

Then, to, there are wives clad in purple and fine linen, quite as much to be pitied, quite as heroic, whose husbands are a disgrace to manhood though they themselves fall in no wifely or motherly duty.

Blind indeed must that person be who fails to see all this every hour in the twenty-four.

Love of commendation is one of woman's chief charms.

There is not a woman alive who is indifferent to words of praise from the man he loves.

Women who stifle their hearts because it is vain to listen to an answer where they have a right to expect to look for it, and go on performing their duties just the same—if it be their duties—are the women who most long for the kindly, appreciative word.

In too many homes it is the lack of appreciation, the lack of sympathy, that builds up sickening barriers between hearts that should be very near.

Is the love of appreciation of

friends a crime a weakness?

If so, men are also very, very weak; for they cannot get along at all—the majority of them—without this sort of bolstering up.

Read any of the precious "advice to women" and you will see how womankind are advised to be cheerful and keep their hammers hidden. You will see how womankind are cautioned to be up and doing at all times on the front doorstep—ready to "smile" as soon as the husbands turn the corner.

The very minute the poor, dear man comes trotting home they are advised to beam at him, unless he loses heart and doubts their love for him.

Better for the twins to fall down the back stairs and yell their little heads off than that the dear father and husband be not greeted with a pleasant smile.

Again, according to "advice," they must be sure and tell him how nice his waistcoat is, how becoming his tie; if he is a thin man, how they hate fat, pudgy men; if he is a fat man, how they just love fat, good-natured-looking men.

Then every little once and awhile, according to the "advice," they must tell him how proud they are of him, 'cause if they don't he'll surely lose heart, and his love

for them will fail.

But what about the advice to husbands?

One rarely, if ever, sees any printed.

It really seems that it should be equally important how husbands should greet their wives, how they should smile at them and scintillate happiness at the breakfast table.

Why under the blue canopy aren't husbands advised of some of these wise truths?

One might think it because women don't care for commendation. Yet we all know praise is a dainty morsel that both men and women gobble up greedily and loudly cry, "More, more."

This world is a prison from which none of us can hope to escape alive. Why cannot we then speak the helpful, kindly, truthful, appreciative word.

There is a time and place for everything, however. None of us want it in public; in fact, the men and women guilty of it render themselves liable to suspicion of only being affectionate in public.

But deliver me from the granite man and woman who say they prefer to live without words of commendation, who pride themselves on not requiring it!—Mary Eleanor O'Donnell, in Philadelphia Press.

Bill For Relief Of Caleb Powers.

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that Section 641 of the Revised Statutes be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

"Section 641. When any civil suit or criminal prosecution is commenced in any State court, for any cause whatsoever, against any person who is denied or cannot enforce in the judicial tribunals of the State, or in the part of the State where such suit or prosecution is pending, any rights secured to him by any law providing for the equal civil rights of citizens in the United States, or of all persons within the jurisdiction of the United States; or who by reason of the existence of prejudice against him, or by reason of the illegal or corrupt acts of the court wherein the suit is pending, or of the officers thereof, is unable to secure a fair and impartial trial; or against any

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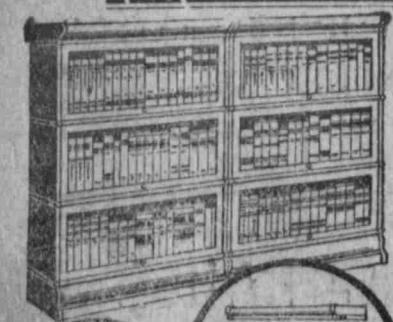
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